## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| App'n Number: |                                       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Filing Date:  |                                       |
| Applicant:    | Kilbourn, Kip et al.                  |
| App'n. Title: | An Improved Vehicle Suspension System |
| Examiner/GAU: |                                       |
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Mailed

Fullerton, CA 92835

## **Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Attached is a completed Form PTO/SB/08A and copies of the references cited therein. Following are comments on these references.

Selected portions of U.S. Patent Numbers 5,967,580, 5,845,540, and 4,911,033, all issued to M.E. Roshiem are included to illustrate the genesis of the Hime Joint.

U.S. Patent Numbers 6,076,247, 4,957,307, and 4,783,095 show variations of the prior art use of ball and socket joints in vehicle suspension systems.

Tuan et al. in U.S. Patent Number 4,986,688 shows a simple ball and socket joint for a vehicle steering control system.

There is no precedent in the prior art for incorporating a Hime Joint in the suspension system of a vehicle.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert T. Spaulding

# 28,990

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PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
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|                                   |                       |      | 01 001105 | Application Number     |                    |  |
| INF                               | ORMATION              | DIS  | CLOSURE   | Filing Date            |                    |  |
| STA                               | ATEMENT E             | BY A | PPLICANT  | First Named Inventor   | KILBWRN, K. ET AL. |  |
|                                   |                       |      |           | Group Art Unit         |                    |  |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) |                       |      |           | Examiner Name          |                    |  |
| Sheet                             |                       | of   | (         | Attorney Docket Number |                    |  |

|                       | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS    |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document  Kind Code  (if known)      | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |  |  |  |
|                       |                          | 5,967,580  | ROSHEIM   | 10-19-99   | ABSTRACT   |  |  |  |
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|                       |                          | 4,986,688  | TUAN et al.                                     | 01.77.01   | 1,1,45-58  |  |  |  |
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|           | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                     |                                      |                             |                              |  |        |  |
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| Examiner  | Cite                     | Foreign Patent Document                          |                     |                                      | Name of Patentee or         | Date of Publication of       | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant | $\top$ |  |
| Initials* | No.1                     | Office <sup>3</sup>                              | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) | Applicant of Cited Document | Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear   | Te     |  |
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.